

**EDITORIAL**

On behalf of the Council of the ICCM, I wish you all a prosperous new year. As you will be aware, 1987 is a milestone in the development of conservation in Australia with the holding of the 8th Triennial Meeting of the ICOM Committee for Conservation in Sydney from 6-11 September. The meeting organising committee, which is based in Sydney, is putting a lot of effort into preparations for the meeting to ensure it will be a success. In the end, however, the number of delegates attending the meeting will determine its success. All, and I mean all ICCM members are urged to register for the meeting. The conference registration fee should hopefully be a tax deduction which will reduce the cost, and remember, when will an international conservation conference be held in Australia again? It will be many decades away. So take this chance of a life-time to attend an international conservation meeting and talk to those overseas conservators who you know only in name. Let us show the world that the conservation profession is well established in Australia and on a sound professional basis.

With the next issue of the Bulletin you will be receiving a copy of the ICCM Code of Ethics and Guidance for Conservation Practice adopted by the membership in Adelaide last year. Help us to promote the conservation profession by circulating this Code of Ethics to your colleagues and around your institution. The more others know about us and how we work, the easier will be our work. Additional copies of the Code of Ethics are available, free of charge, on request.

One item of news from the ICCM Council is that we hope to be employing a part-time administrative support officer in the not too distant future. The person will handle the ICCM membership, assist with routine correspondence and provide assistance to the publications program. This will ease the load on our overworked 'volunteer' executive and help to increase the efficiency of the management of the Institute.

I would also like to take this opportunity of thanking those other 'volunteer' ICCM members such as Debbie Breen and her editorial committee on this Newsletter, and Heather Mansell and her committee on the Bulletin. I am sure that you will agree that our communication and information dissemination channels are improving all the time. Don't forget though, your input is needed with papers for the Bulletin and articles for the Newsletter if this progress is to be maintained.

Happy conserving, and I hope to see you all in Sydney in September.

**Colin Pearson**  
President

**COMING EVENTS****NATIONAL**

**ICOMOS (Aust.) Inc "Built in Wood"** 1st Australian Conference on the Conservation of Timber Structures, 10-15 April 1987, Brisbane, QLD. For more information: Richard Allom, PO Box 431, Fortitude Valley, Q 4006.

**CONSERVATION ON THE MOVE PROJECT, "Boxes for fragile or damaged books" and "Storage of newspapers"**, 23 April 1987, organised by LAA and University of NSW. For more information: Helen Price, (02) 697 3447.

**CONSERVATION ON THE MOVE PROJECT, "Conservation of Mural Paintings"**, 1 May 1987. For more information: Tim Kelly or Rosie Peel, (02) 225 1700.

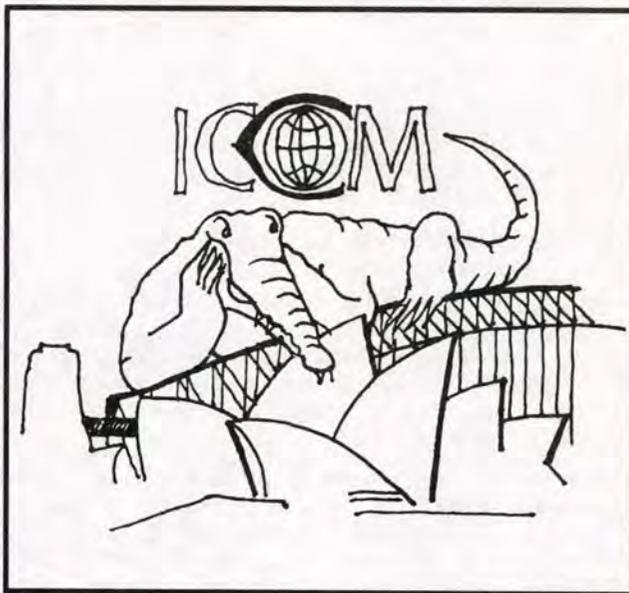
**Museum of Victoria, "Disaster Planning for Museums"**, in early May. Speakers will include Eric Archer (State Library of Victoria), Daniel Tworek (Museum of Victoria) and Max Borchardt (CAVAL). For more information: Ruth Leveson, (03) 669 9993.

**First National Paper Conference**, 15-18 May 1987, Centre for the Arts, Hobart, TAS. For more information: Chris Milton, (002) 202 048.

**CONSERVATION ON THE MOVE PROJECT, "Storage methods for photographic prints and negatives" and "Folders and wallets for documents and pamphlets"**, 28 May 1987. For more information: Helen Price, (02) 697 3447.

**AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY FOR HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY, "Colonisation: Australia in the World Context"**, 1-3 September, Sydney University, NSW.

The theme of the conference will include topics such as "Australia and Company Charters: Private Investment/Capitalist Concepts"; "Australian Trade Networks: the Straits and the Pacific"; "British Strategies and Policies: Government at a Distance" and "Popular Culture: Home-grown or Imported". For more information: The Hon. Secretary, ASHA, Box 220, Holme Building, University of Sydney, NSW 2006.



**ICOM 8th Triennial Meeting, Committee for Conservation**, 6-12 September 1987, Sydney, NSW.

The International Council of Museums (ICOM) is a professional organisation which focuses on the improvement and advancement of the world's museums. The ICOM Committee for Conservation 8th Triennial Meeting will be held at the Hilton International Sydney Hotel, and will be only the second ICOM meeting held outside Europe and the first in the southern hemisphere.

This is an important international meeting and all interested people from Australia, New Zealand and the Asia-Pacific region are encouraged to attend. It should be noted that delegates do not have to be members of ICOM to attend this meeting. However, if anyone would like to join, they

can do so by contacting Tom Campbell, National Museum of Australia, Canberra.

If you are presenting a paper at the meeting, you can obtain author instruction from Sue Walston, Australian Museum, Sydney. For further general information: Dulcie Stretton Associates, 70 Glenmore Rd, Paddington NSW 2021. Ph: (02) 357 6862 or (02) 331 5258.

## INTERNATIONAL

**Conference on lighting for museums, galleries and historic houses**, 9-10 April 1987, Bristol University, Bristol, UK. For more information: Mark Taylor, The Museums Association, 34 Bloomsbury Way, London WC1A 2SF, UK.

**ICC-Canada Group, 13th Annual Conference**, 15-18 May 1987, at BC Provincial Museum, Victoria, British Columbia. The conference theme is "Preventative Conservation". For more information: IIC-CG, PO Box 9195, Terminal, Ottawa, Ontario, K1G 3T9 Canada.

**AIC-GCI Symposium 'The Application of Information Technology to Conservation'**, 19-20 May, Hotel Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. For more information: AIC, 3545 Williamsburg Lane, NSW, Washington DC, 20008, USA.

**AIC, 15th Annual Meeting**, 20-24 May 1987, Hotel Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. For more information: as above.

**GCI Intensive Course in Ethnographic Conservation**, 1 June - 10 July 1987, Marina del Rey, California. For more information: Getty Conservation Institute, 4503 Glencoe Ave, Marina del Rey, California, 90292, USA.

**University of London-Institute of Archaeology "Recent Advances in the Conservation and Analysis of Artifacts"**, 6-10 July 1987, London.

The conference is being convened to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the University of London Institute of Archaeology and the teaching of conservation of objects within the Institute. The theme of the conference emphasises research and case studies in the conservation and analysis of artifacts, particularly archaeological material. For further information: Jubilee Conservation Conference, Institute of Archaeology, 31-34 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PY. Ph: (01) 387 9651.

**Fifth Annual Conference on Textiles**, 10-12 July 1987, Illinois State University, Normal, USA.

Papers will be presented by invited speakers on history of textiles; ethnic woven structures, application of computers and technology to textiles and textile conservation and preservation. For more information: Prof Naomi Whiting Towner, Department of Art, Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois, 61761, USA.

**University of London-Institute of Archaeology, Textile Conservation Course**, 27-31 July 1987. For more information: James Black, Co-ordinator of Summer School, Institute of Archaeology, 31-34 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PY, UK.

**International Symposium On Newspaper Preservation and Access**, 12-15 August 1987, London.

The symposium will gather together all those concerned in the task of maintaining and preserving newspaper collections. Numbers will be limited, so if you are interested, write immediately for further information: Valerie J. Nurcombe, Information Consultant, 8 Kingfisher Drive, Over Winsford, Cheshire CW 7 IPF, UK.

**International Biodeterioration Symposium**, 6-11 September 1987, Cambridge, UK. There will be a session of biodeterioration in libraries and museums, chaired by David Baynes-Cope. For more information: Ms J. Maw, Biological Sciences, Hatfield Polytechnic, PO Box 109, Hatfield AL10 9AD, Herts, UK.

**Colloquium for Auxiliary Historical Sciences, "Parchment and Vellum"**, 20-22 September 1987, Marburg, West Germany. For more information: Prof Dr P. Ruck, Philipps-Universität Marburg, 3550 Marburg, Wilhelm-Ropke-Strasse 6C, West Germany.

**Symposium of Imaging Sciences and Technology Group (The Royal Photographic Society)**, 21-25 September 1987, Oxford, England.

The overall theme of the symposium is to be the storage of recorded images, including the stability and conservation of images; archival storage considerations for electronic and magnetic images; and photographic storage. For more information: Ms H. Graves, Research Division, Kodak Limited, Headstone Drive, Yarrow HA1 4TY, UK.

## LETTERS

To the Editor:

On behalf of my colleagues in private conservation practice, I would like to address the issue of the use of public funds to subsidise private conservation practice - with particular focus on the recent developments in the Regional Conservation Service of the State Conservation Centre of South Australia.

The Regional Conservation Service defined in the Centre's brochure as a 'statewide service' has recently solicited work from several national and public institutions in Canberra. I anticipate, with growing concern the establishment of a publicly-funded institution that may, by virtue of its subsidised overhead costs, confuse the balance of private fees.

May I introduce several points relevant to this issue:

- 1) The nature of the services proffered by the Regional Centre are not exclusive to their superior facilities. Progressive private laboratories around Australia are able and willing to offer a wide range of treatments - including phased conservation. Indeed, some are engaged in contracts of this sort already.
- 2) It is a benefit of subsidisation that the Regional Centre is able to reduce costs by utilising unqualified labour to effect conservation treatments. The subsidy lies in the fact that the State Centre employs the qualified conservators to supervise the Regional Service activities. On occasion, supervisory work has been contracted to private practitioners by the Regional Service. The possibility of a Canberra conservator working on a Canberra poster in an Adelaide laboratory comes to mind. I would suggest that this approach might be short-sighted for the practitioner who endeavours to develop his or her own laboratory.
- 3) The private practitioner is aware of the tenets of free enterprise. The principles involved in this issue, however, are largely to do with public vs. private. Conservators should ask themselves if independent private conservation practice serves a purpose. Fundamentally, that is the issue.

The above comments are intended to make public certain developments that may have far-reaching implications for the direction, if not viability, of private conservation practice in Australia. The Regional Conservation Service of the State Conservation Centre of South Australia is invited to respond.

**Kerry McInnis,  
Director, Art and Archival Pty Ltd**

To the Editor:

Having reviewed the two editorials in the last 2 national newsletters I am somewhat aghast at the provocative response of the "NSW faction" - the whole concept of bringing such a word in the commentary by the correspondent (Nov. 1986) negates any understanding of what

the editors wished to relay in the September issue, and simply implants the belief that petty factions exist – that's news to me! This NSW member applauded the editorial for highlighting and underlining the need for conservators nationally to unify, communicate and support the profession to a large extent. I truly believe this occurs, never having struck truculence, and never hoping to do so.

I too would support the comment that Australian conservators need to 'combine resources' and form long term national structures and policies which give some cohesive implementation of conservation to the cultural heritage of this nation. By this I hope that it is a broader definition than the massive institutions which abound with 'treasure'. If any criticism can be aimed at conservators and the Institute that represents us (ICCM) it is a lack of acknowledgement or response to heritage outside major institutions. The general public, community and volunteer organisations of Australia have a right of access to our expertise. To date all I have witnessed from sections of the conservation community is ignorance, apathy and a general negative protectionist response.

Personally, I weary of the 'ivory tower' mentality amongst my colleagues founded unfortunately on overworked '88 projects and a conscious and continual self-denial of what overall museum work is all about. Conservation is one part of a complex heritage beast, if conservators choose to define themselves within their limited field they will remain in gilded cages. I for one hope that some semblance of understanding and positive forward motion will occur in the ensuing years after the inferno of 1988 and that collections will become rationalized with the hope that the preservation will become a funded priority.

I have great hopes and as I am only au fait with the NSW scene, can see a tidal wave of responsibility at a high government level, sweeping over the land.

On a final note, of course we need and want the knowledge, kudos and experience of overseas conservators. At the same time the old adage still remains – Consolidate the home front.

**Sharon Towns,**  
Senior Conservator, MAA – NSW.

## GOVERNMENT FUNDING – OVERSEAS TRENDS?

A Task Force charged with examining the Canadian government's policy concerning museums recommended that the Canadian Conservation Institute's treatment projects be drastically curtailed. It advised that future activities should focus on research, and information and advisory services. The Task Force also recommended that the present staffing level be reduced from 64 to 12, with an annual budget reduction from \$4 million (Canadian) to \$1 million. This report has caused considerable concern in Canada and USA, with the major conservation groups lobbying strongly for continued government support. As yet, it is not known what will result from the Task Force's recommendations.

## PEOPLE AND PROJECTS

- Congratulations to Mark Nizette and Penny Marshall (ACT) on the birth of Benjamin Edwin; to Peter and Jane Jacoby (QLD) on the birth of Lewis Carl; and to Kate Eccles-Smith and Ken Purves (VIC) on the birth of Callum David. Congratulations also to Dr Ian MacLeod who hasn't had a baby, but has been appointed Head of Conservation at WA Maritime Museum.
- There are now 4 full-time conservators at the Alexander Library – David Butcher, Doug Firth, Allison Holland and John Mann. They are currently working on State Film Archives collections, and programmes for internal and external boxing of serials.

- Jenny Casey has joined Campbell Conservation group (NSW) as Paper conservator.
- A number of CCAE Conservation students went on working holidays over the Christmas break with host institutions in ACT, QLD, VIC and NSW. The intake for 1987 is full, with several students from South-East Asia and the Pacific. There has also been an intake of students for the research Master's degree.
- Karen Schultz and Julia Scott Waine are lobbying for funds to continue with the Regional Conservation service in WA. They have also been visiting 18 regional museums to give workshops and provide detailed environmental reports.
- The Menin Gate Lions project is underway at the Australian War Memorial (ACT). The missing parts of the lions will be reconstructed by Lucas Zywaszko over the next three months. Moulds will be made using clay and plaster, and the pieces cast in epoxy and marble dust.
- ACT Divisional Newsletter reports that Australian Archives have been involved in alchemy (programming 3000 days into 1000 for 1987), masochism (assisting with a survey of the conditions of holdings Australia-wide) and prophecy (designing and testing a box made of expanded polystyrene for storage of glass photographic materials). All in a day's work for Colin Webb, Ian Batterham and Susu Nousala.
- Robert Wilmot (SA) has been awarded an internship at the Tate Gallery in London from 23 March – 29 May. During the visit Robert will be studying the uses of the Willards Multi-purpose airflow table in preparation for the installation of a similar table at the Centre in Adelaide.
- Donna Midwinter has been appointed regional conservator for MAA (NSW) to be located in Canberra.
- Robert Sheehy (QLD) has finalised specifications and plans for a "support wall bracket for Document Restoration", a type of wall rack for items drying under tension.
- The National Estate Programme has granted State Archives (QLD) the funds to employ two people for a twelve month period to carry out basic cleaning, tape removal, repairs and encapsulation of 6000 architectural plans.
- Archaeologists from the Maritime Archaeology Department (WA) are currently involved in an expedition to the *Sirius* at Norfolk Island. The *Sirius* is the flag ship of the First Fleet. Excavation work is also being carried out on the *Edwin Fox* at Picton in New Zealand by Paul Hundley and members of Earthwatch. The *Edwin Fox* is now afloat and is the only convict ship still in existence.
- Art and Archival Pty Ltd (ACT) has been enjoying a beneficial exchange of ideas on treatment approach and method with Ms Jill Sterrett, a Cooperstown graduate who has recently completed her internship year at the Library of Congress. Jill has joined Kerry McInnis for a ten-month contract programme of conservation work in private practice. The lab is assembling its new ultra-sonic humidification set-up and also has been engaged in some interesting enzyme treatments. Kerry and Jill are considering running a seminar/workshop in June/July to review suction table methods and ultra-sonic humidification techniques in general. More on this later!
- The conservation of over 100 paintings and 60 works on paper was completed for the exhibition *Western Australia Art and Artists 1900 to 1950* by Gordon Hudson, Errol Allen, Trevor Gillies and Bridget Pears (WA).

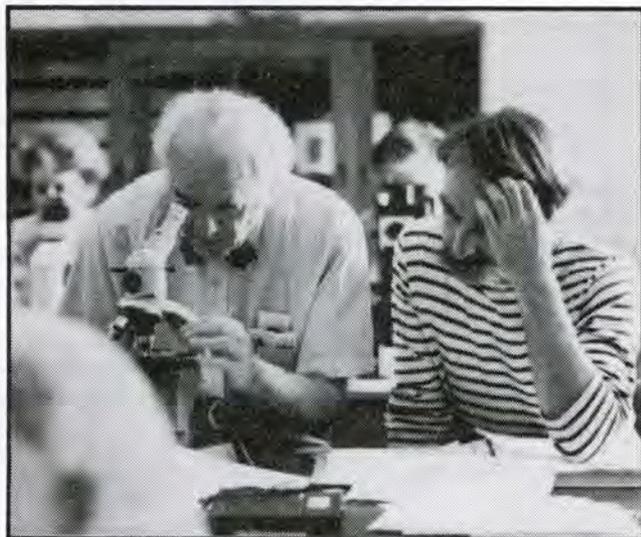
## REVIEWS

### Walter McCrone Microscopy Course, Sydney, December 1986.

*(Sponsored by Wild Leitz Australia and NSW Division of ICCM. Facilities at NSW Institute of Technology arranged and supervised by the School of Biological Sciences, Sydney Technical College.)*

If you have ever wondered what it would be like to be taught procedures relevant to conservation by someone with exceptional skills as an educator and a lifetime of personal experience, you would have found out in the four days of the Microscopy course at Sydney Technical College.

Due to the efforts of Susie Bioletti and the Sydney group of ICCM, Dr Walter McCrone (of McCrone and Associates Chicago) presented a five day workshop in polarised light microscopy as a means of fibre and pigment identification. The course was given to a group of 18 conservators, both institutionally and privately employed. For many who commenced the course, Dr McCrone already had a revered status as a microscopist and pigment and fibre analyst. Few would have left after five days of intense activity without increased reverence for the person behind the publications. By the third day and with Dr McCrone's revelation that the artificial lens in his left eye allowed him to resolve into the ultraviolet region, there was universal amazement.



*Dr McCrone with a reverential John Payne*

The five days (at a cost of \$US300 per student) began with a review of the function and operation of the polarising light microscope. Each student was provided with a microscope and reference slide collection to go step-by-step through the processes. Back-up material was provided by video and slide presentations. The final two days were spent grappling with unknown samples and a short test to assess individual progress.

On the evening of Wednesday 5 December, Dr McCrone addressed a combined ICCM and Microscopists Association meeting at the Art Gallery of NSW. Projects in which the use of the light microscope had been used for pigment identification were presented. Most notably, Dr McCrone gave a summary of his controversial analysis of samples from the Turin shroud, concluding adamantly that the image had been produced with pigments.

The McCrone microscopy course was the type of continuing educational experience the ICCM would be well advised to foster. We have a relatively small number of conservators in Australia, and an even smaller number of people with a large body of experience to draw on. To seek out those who are capable of such practical and constructive activities is the only way for conservation to develop in Australia.

**John Payne**  
Paintings Conservator - National Gallery of Victoria.

## CEP CONTRIBUTION

After nine months of work at the State Conservation Centre of South Australia, the CEP project team CS 775 finished up on 20 February. The team made a remarkable contribution to the Centre's programmes and will be missed.

Team members were distributed over the Centre's five major activities, including paintings, paper, textiles, objects and scientific services. Should other institutions be looking for competent support staff in any of these areas, please contact Ian Cook (08 223 1766) for advice.

## CO-OPERATIVE CONSERVATION PROJECTS

*As an awareness of the importance for conservation grows, the question of funding grows with it. How will funding be sustained, and how do institutions make the most out of the funding that is available to them? The following is an extract from a paper presented at the Society of American Archivists Annual Meeting in 1986, highlighting the need for co-operative programmes and how to use them most effectively to overcome restrictions on resources.*

"A cooperative needs authority to function effectively. Commitment from top administrators of the participating institutions may give more credibility to the effort, encouraging others to join. This commitment may also provide for the resources needed, such as funding for staffing, postage, and xeroxing.

The purpose of the cooperative should be clearly defined and the goals and objectives prioritized. Areas to be considered include the geographical boundaries, the membership criteria, and the scope of the project (what will and will not be done).

To work together more effectively, cooperatives among varying types of institutions may have to overcome the barriers caused by their differences. Institutions whose purpose, administrative structure, clientele, and budgets differ should explore how these differences may impact on the cooperative. Also, there may be a tendency for institutions to be competitive in the areas of funding and collection development. Cooperation in these areas may prove beneficial, as a cooperative effort may attract both money and materials, which a single research institution alone may not be able to acquire.

These considerations aside, there are numerous areas in which institutions may organize in cooperative ventures:

### ■ Sharing expertise and equipment

Conservation programs can be expensive and a time intensive proposition. Sharing personnel and equipment may be an immediate solution to what otherwise may seem a long-term goal if attempted by one institution alone. A cooperative could be organized to share conservators and technicians, as well as supplies, facilities, and transportation that may be needed for a project.

### ■ Sharing education and training programs

Cooperatives can organize hands-on workshops, lectures, discussion groups, and film and slide presentations to educate staff members. It may be more cost effective to arrange to have a conservator teach a number of staff from a few research institutions in a given area, rather than each institution independently sending one individual to be trained. More staff may be trained in such an effort, and the training may be directed more specifically to the needs of the participating research institutions.

### ■ Sharing storage space

Appropriate and adequate space is a problem most research institutions will face, and the use of commercial storage facilities is an option many will have to consider. However, commercial space can be both expensive and restrictive, due to curtailed access (hours, distance, and staff). An alternative could be to organize a cooperative effort to

obtain a large facility that a single institution may not be able to afford.

#### ■ Shared funding

In these budget-conscious times, funding agencies may be more inclined to support cooperative projects that affect a broader concern, rather than fund a project affecting only one institution. In the area of conservation, cooperative efforts may be more attractive to funding agencies, particularly with the success of the regional conservation centers as a shining example of what can be accomplished.

#### ■ Generating cooperative publications

An informative conservation newsletter can be published through cooperative efforts. Other ideas for publication include catalogs of the holdings of area repositories and instructional manuals. Such publications may enjoy wider distribution as a result of outreach to the different research institutions' audiences.

#### ■ Cooperative collecting

One institution cannot collect everything. Specific formats of materials may require special and sometimes expensive care. A cooperative may agree to designate specific institutions as the primary facility for specific subject areas or formats. This permits a more systematic approach to the acquisition and care of materials.

#### ■ Preparing for emergencies

As institutions experience disasters, near disasters, and threats of disaster, it becomes increasingly clear that prevention and pre-planning can significantly affect the ability of institutions to respond and recover. The task of planning can seem overwhelming; however, a cooperative effort may be the motivation for institutions to prepare plans. And as important, a cooperative can be a valuable resource for responding to emergencies.

These suggestions represent a few areas in which cooperative conservation can be useful. As technology develops, there may be other areas to consider. Cooperative efforts are on the increase and just may be the answer to the growing dilemma of how to handle the continuing problems of preserving our history for generations to come."

**Karen L. Jefferson**  
Moorland-Springarn Research Center, Howard University

(Taken from *Conservation Administration News*, No. 28, January 1987).

## CONSERVATION SCIENCE GROUP

The question of a conservation science group to be established within the ICCM was put to members at the ICCM Adelaide conference last August and produced a positive result.

The main purpose of the group is to establish links between those persons involved in conservation research and development, however advanced or simple their work may be, and to allow exchange of ideas between these persons through the medium of a suitable newsletter or by direct communication.

As a first step an index of those persons involved in research and development in our field could be established with particular areas of interest and expertise indicated so that communication with others of similar interests, or with special expertise, may be established. If sufficient interest is indicated by members then a formal approach to the executive of the ICCM will be made to request such a group be established within the ICCM.

If you are interested in joining such a group, please contact:

David Tilbrooke  
c/- The State Conservation Centre of S.A.  
70 KINTORE AVENUE  
ADELAIDE S.A. 5000

with a note of your particular research and/or development interests and area(s) of expertise.

## EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

*Jennie Barnett (State Conservation Centre of South Australia) has pointed out a mistake in the last Newsletter: Prices for needles were printed per 100 rather than per 1000. Sharps needles, size 12 are £8.40 per 1000 and Tapestry needles, size 26 are £18.10 per 1000. They are available from: Henry Milward and Sons, Arrow Works, Studley, Warwickshire, B80 7A5, UK.*

Kerry McInnis would like to thank fellow conservators for their interest in the steam tool project that she was coordinating with the C.C.A.E. Industrial Design School. The results are that the lab is now in possession of the prototype tool and all are welcome to come and try it. The lab has assigned all design and patent rights to the student creator, thereby forfitting any involvement with manufacture, should that occur. This means that any immediate supply of this super tool is unlikely. The designer, Steve Buffington, is presently exploring manufacturing sponsorship from American conservation suppliers. He invites expressions of interest (not orders, please) to give him an idea of Australia's demand for such a tool. His address is: Steve Buffington, 15A David Street, O'Connor, ACT, 2601.

*Richard McDonald from RSM Art Conservation, is investigating the possibility of fabricating locally a low pressure vacuum table for paper restoration. The design is based upon one seen recently in Europe. If any person is interested in the design, and/or manufacture please write to RSM Art Conservation, P.O. Box 75, Mapleton, 4560. The more that are made, the cheaper they will be.*

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

### Computer Network Development (South Australia)

Keith Fernandez, Co-ordinator of the Regional Conservation Service (South Australia), has recently been engaged in the installation of Phase One of the Centre's computer network.

Four terminals are now linked in the system and staff can now enter conservation treatments index data simultaneously. In addition to the conservation treatments index, the Centre hopes to have the following systems on line by the end of 1987:

- budget control system
- registry file system
- project control system
- assets register
- stores control
- photographic orders control system

### GCI Conservation Information Network

The Conservation Information Network is being developed by the Getty Conservation Institute and a number of other major institutions concerned with the conservation of cultural property. To date, these institutions include the National Museums of Canada, Canadian Conservation Institute, ICOMOS and the Conservation Analytical Laboratory at the Smithsonian Institute.

Projects which are underway in this umbrella group of institutions and individuals are: the establishing of a common data base for materials used in conservation (with emphasis on adhesives, consolidants, coatings and pesticides); bibliographic information on architectural conservation; and a thesaurus of standard terms to be used with the CIN. For more information about the Network and its uses, contact John Perkins, Documentation Project Co-ordinator, GCI, 4503 Glencoe Avenue, Marina del Rey, California 90292-6537, USA.

### In with the old, out with the new

The National Research Council (USA) recently presented recommendations to the National Archives. The "Preservation of Historical Records" considers the variety of media

on which historical records are preserved, and concluded that neither magnetic recording media nor optical discs are suitable because of their rapid obsolescence. Or rather, the obsolescence of the machines necessary to access the information. The media actually survives longer than the relevant playing machines. Paper and microfilm however may last up to 1000 years or more and do not require sophisticated equipment to be read. (Taken from 'The Abbey Newsletter', December 1986).

## DISASTER PLANNING

Andrew Argyrakis is compiling a UKIC manual on disaster planning, and would like to receive information from anyone who has coped with the effects of natural or man-made disasters. He would also like to hear from institutions who have drawn up Emergency plans for disaster preparedness. Andrew can be contacted at 22 Lower Park Road, Loughton, Essex IG10 4NA, UK.

## GRANTS, INTERNSHIPS

**Conservation of Cultural Materials Scholarship:** The Government of New South Wales is offering a scholarship valued at \$10,000 to assist a professional conservator to undertake a course of study or training at an approved institution in Australia or overseas.

Applicants should have completed a course of study in a relevant discipline, or be persons of exceptional ability who have been accepted for training in conservation methods by the approved institution. It is expected that the successful applicant will return to New South Wales after studying or training overseas.

Application forms and guidelines are available from: The Director, Office of the Minister for the Arts, Box R 105, Royal Exchange, PO Sydney 2000. Telephone: (02) 27 7235 or 27 9551. The closing date for applications is 17 April 1987.

**Mellon Fellowship - Flat Paper or Book Conservation:** The Northeast Document Conservation Centre (near Boston, USA) is offering an advanced internship supported in part by the Andrew Mellon Foundation. The internship will begin in August-September 1987, and will run for two years.

Applicants should have completed a graduate training programme in conservation or have equivalent educational and work experience. The intern should be interested in specialising either in flat paper or in book conservation.

Please send a letter of intent, resume and three letters of recommendation (preferably from conservators) to Mary Todd Glaser, NEDCC, 24 School St, Andover, MA 01810-4099.

**Postgraduate Fellowships at the Philadelphia Museum of Art:** There are two postgraduate fellowships which will be available in 1987 at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. They are intended for conservators who have completed a graduate training programme in conservation or have equivalent experience. Each fellowship includes a stipend of \$16,000 (US), plus health insurance and a travel supplement of \$3000 (US).

The fellowships are: The Andrew Mellon fellowship in paintings conservation, available from September 1987; and the J. Paul Getty Trust advanced internship in objects conservation, which is also available from September 1987.

Applicants should send resumes with references and sample examination reports and treatment records with photographs to Margene H. Butler, Head of Conservation, Philadelphia Museum of Art, PO Box 7646, Philadelphia PA 19101-7646, USA.

**Internship in Textile Conservation at the Smithsonian Institute:** The Conservation Analytical Laboratory is offering four ten-week internships on a project of documenting, treatment and storage of a large collection of 19th century wool flags.

Limited financial assistance will be provided. Applicants should send a letter outlining past experience, areas of interest and a resume (with references) to: Mary W. Ballard, Conservation Analytical Laboratory, Museum Support Centre, Smithsonian Institute, Washington DC, 20560, USA. Applications close 31 March 1987, and appointments will be announced by mid April 1987.

**The ICCM National Newsletter is issued quarterly and is available free to all members. Membership enquiries should be directed towards the Secretary, ICCM Inc., GPO Box 1638, Canberra, ACT 2601, Australia.**

**Contributions and correspondence should be typed with double spacing and addressed to: The Editors, ICCM Inc. National Newsletter, PO Box 20465, Melbourne, Vic. 3001, Australia. Telephone enquiries can be directed to : Debbie Breen, (03) 669 9024. Final deadline for copy for the next issue is May 11, 1987.**

**Publication of technical notes or articles with reference to techniques and materials does not necessarily represent an endorsement by ICCM Inc.**

**Please note new advertising fees: \$A60 per full column, and \$A30 per half column or less.**

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